September 26, 2003

Irene Flannery
Vice President-High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2120 L Street, NW - Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20037

Marlene H Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW, Room TW-A306
Washington, D C 20554

Re CC Docket No. 96-45

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Colliserves 8 customers in the state of North Dakota. The North Dakota Public Service Commission has no jurisdiction over these customers. They are served from an exchange and switch in South Dakota. Therefore, pursuant to 47 CFR 54 314(b), we hereby submit the enclosed self-cartification of James Valley by the affidavit of board secretary Merle Hanson that James Valley is using the high cost support for its legal and intended purposes for these 8 customers in North Dakota.

You will receive a certification from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission regarding James Valley's use of USF funds in South Dakota. If you have any further questions regarding this matter please contact me

Signed

Doug Eloahl

General Manager

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co PO Box 260 Groton SD 57445-0260 605-397-2323

## **AFFIDAVIT**

## (JAMES VALLEY COOPERATIVE TELEPHONE COMPANY)

FOC MAILROOM

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	) : SS )
COUNTY OF BROWN	

Merle Hanson, being first duly sworn, upon his oath certifies that:

- He is Secretary of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company of Groton, South Dakota, which offers local exchange service in North Dakota to eight customers.
- 2. Upon information and belief, he certifies that all federal universal service high cost support received by James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company is used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended as required by Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

Dated this <u>July</u> day of September, 2003

Merle Hanson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of September, 2003

Notary Public

State of South Dakota

My Commission Expires 3 7-2005

(SEAL)